

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

HOBBS, Steven E. et al.

Title: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
PERFORMING MULTIPLE  
PARALLEL CHROMATOGRAPHIC  
SEPARATIONS**

Serial Number: 10/696,354

Filed: October 28, 2003

Group Art Unit: [not yet assigned]

Examiner: [not yet assigned]

Attorney Docket: 132 Div 2-US

**SUPPLEMENTAL IDS TRANSMITTAL**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents for the above-identified application:

- Transmittal Letter (1 page)
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (1 page)
- Form PTO-1449 (1 page)
- Return Postcard

Applicants have not yet received a first office action on the merits in the above-referenced application, and therefore Applicants believe that no fee is due pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(b). If Applicants' belief is incorrect, please charge any necessary fees to our deposit account number 502454.

Respectfully submitted,



Vincent K. Gustafson

Reg. No. 46,182

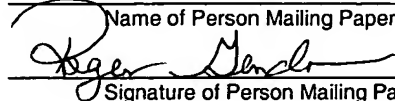
Dated: January 22, 2004

**USPTO Customer No.: 32763**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
(37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient first class postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

January 22, 2004  
Date of Deposit

ROGER GENDRON  
Name of Person Mailing Paper  
  
Signature of Person Mailing Paper



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: HOBBS, Steven E. et al. )  
Title: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR** ) Group Art Unit: [not yet assigned]  
**PERFORMING MULTIPLE PARALLEL** ) Examiner: [not yet assigned]  
**CHROMATOGRAPHIC SEPARATIONS** ) Attorney Docket: 132 Div 2-US  
Serial Number: 10/696,354 )  
Filed: October 28, 2003 )

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

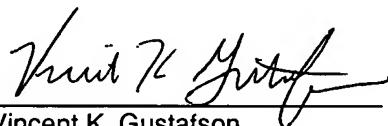
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") are brought to the attention of the Office. The items are listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and, if applicable, copies of only the "Foreign Patent Documents" and "Other Documents" are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner. Copies of the "U.S. Patent Documents" are not enclosed pursuant to the notice dated July 11, 2003 from the Office of Patent Legal Administration (appearing on the "News & Notices" section of the USPTO website) waiving the requirement to supply such citations in applications filed after June 30, 2003. If, however, the Examiner would find it helpful to have the U.S. citations, Applicants will supply them at the request of the Examiner.

The items identified in this IDS may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56. The submission thereof by Applicants is not to be construed that any such patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is material or considered to be material (37 CFR § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicants as such.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Vincent K. Gustafson  
Reg. No. 46,182

Dated: January 22, 2004

**USPTO Customer No.: 32763**

<b>FORM PTO-1449</b>  <b>LIST OF PATENTS AND OTHER ITEMS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.</b> 132 Div 2-US	<b>SERIAL NO.</b> 10/696,354
	<b>APPLICANT:</b> HOBBS, Steven E. et al.	
	<b>FILING DATE:</b> October 28, 2003	<b>GROUP:</b> [not yet assigned]

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	5,804,781	9/8/1998	Berger	73	23.42	10/22/1996
	A2						
	A3						
	A4						
	A5						
	A6						
	A7						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	TRANSLATION?	
	B1					YES	NO
	B2						
	B3						
	B4						
	B5						
	B6						
	B7						

EXAMINER INITIALS	NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	C1	
	C2	
	C3	
	C4	

<b>EXAMINER:</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED:</b>
EXAMINER: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant	